

STATEMENT OF GOVERNOR HALEY BARBOUR
ON PASSAGE OF FEDERAL SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS
June 18, 2009

Jackson, Mississippi – Governor Haley Barbour today issued the following statement:

“Final passage of the federal supplemental appropriations bill for Fiscal Year 2009 is a milestone in our continuing recovery from the devastation of Hurricane Katrina, the worst natural disaster in American history. I am proud of the progress that has been made over nearly four years and very pleased that Mississippi’s recovery needs were included in this vital legislation, which has now passed both the U.S. Senate and the U.S. House.

“I especially want to thank Senators Thad Cochran and Roger Wicker, and Congressmen Bennie Thompson, Gene Taylor, Gregg Harper, and Travis Childers for their outstanding leadership in achieving passage of this bill. It is huge for Mississippi.

“Funding in this bill will help families find permanent, affordable housing, rebuild the barrier islands that help protect the Gulf Coast from future hurricanes, and build a state-of-the-art, interoperable communications system so first responders can work most effectively to save lives.

“In addition, the bill extends FEMA’s disaster housing case management program for the State of Mississippi, which means the federal government will continue reimbursing Mississippi through March 2010 for activities to help find permanent housing solutions for Mississippi families remaining in FEMA housing. It also funds repair of the former Mississippi Army Ammunition Plant, which was damaged by Hurricane Katrina and is scheduled to be transferred from Army control back to NASA.”

#